

Application No. 10/030,027

conduit means for directing the vapour substantially without condensation from the distillation chamber to the direct condensation module, the conduit means sloping downwardly towards the direct condensation module to allow any condensate formed within the conduit to drain into the direct condensation module;

a vapour management module for condensing vapour remaining uncondensed by the direct condensation module; and

a vapour outlet located above the surface of the liquid in the direct condensation module, the vapour outlet communicating with the vapour management module to allow for passage of vapour from the direct condensation module to the vapour management module. - -

In the Drawings:

Amend Fig. 2 to show the anti-vacuum valve V and Fig. 5 to show the tap T and an overflow Pipe D.

REMARKS

The replacement of "distillation chamber" by "direct condensation module" at Page 3, Line 22 and 23 is to correct an obvious error in the original application. Attached is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification captured captioned "Version with markings to show changes made."

A copy of Fig. 2 and Fig. 5 showing the amendments thereto in red is also attached.

Anti-vacuum valve V, tap T and overflow pipe D were inadvertently omitted from Figs. 2 and Fig. 5, respectively. However, from the description of the valve V in the paragraph spanning pages 8 and 9, it is apparent that such a valve should have been indicated in Figure 2 as being on the

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distillation chamber 2 and it is submitted that the insertion of same in Figure 2 does not constitute new matter. Similarly, from the description of the tap T in the paragraph spanning pages 14 and 15, it is apparent that such a tap should have been indicated in Figure 5 as being on the container 20. Furthermore, it is apparent from page 14 (lines 20 and 21) that the tap should preferably be close to the bottom of the container 20. Therefore, it is submitted that the insertion of same in Figure 5 does not constitute new matter. Finally, from the description of the overflow pipe D at page 15 (lines 4 - 9), it is apparent that such a pipe should have been indicated in Figure 5 as being on the container 20 at some suitable location to ensure that a fixed volume of liquid is maintained in the container. Therefore, it is submitted that the insertion of same in Figure 5 does not constitute new matter.

Accompanying this Preliminary Amendment is an Information Disclosure Statement with citation of prior art.


Respectfully Submitted,



James D. Hall
BOTKIN & HALL, LLP
105 East Jefferson Boulevard, Suite 400
South Bend, Indiana 46601-1913
Telephone: (574) 234-3900
Fax: (574) 236-2839
Attorney for Applicant

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on 20 Apr 02


James D. Hall, Reg. No. 24,893

Version with markings to show changes made

Accordingly, the present invention provides a vapour recovery system for efficient
15 and safe recovery of a vapour from a solvent comprising:

a distillation module comprising a distillation chamber for the solvent and heating
means for heating the chamber to vaporize the solvent;

a direct condensation module comprising a container for condensing the vapour and
collecting the solvent in the liquid phase;

20 conduit means for directing the vapour substantially without condensation from the
distillation chamber to the direct condensation module, the conduit means sloping
downwardly towards the distillation chamber to allow any condensate formed within the
conduit to drain into the distillation chamber;

a vapour management module for condensing vapour remaining uncondensed by the direct condensation module; and

a vapour outlet located above the surface of the liquid in the direct condensation module, the vapour outlet communicating with the vapour management module to allow for
5 passage of vapour from the direct condensation module to the vapour management module.